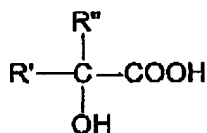


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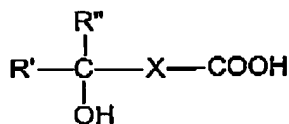
IN THE CLAIMS:

10. (Once Amended) A method of treating blemished skin or acne comprising topically applying to blemished or acned skin an effective amount of a cosmetic and/or dermatological preparation in the form of an emulsion, said preparation comprising:

- a) an effective amount of one or more α -hydroxycarboxylic acids of the general formula:



and/or an effective amount of one or more β -hydroxycarboxylic acids of the general formula:



where X is an aliphatic CH_2 group, a cycloaliphatic CH group, an aromatic CH group or a $\text{CH}(\text{OH})$ group,

where in each case R' and R'' , independently of one another, are selected from the group consisting of:

- i) H,

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- ii) branched or unbranched C₁₋₂₅-alkyl,
- iii) branched or unbranched C₁₋₂₅-alkyl substituted by one or more carboxyl groups and/or hydroxyl groups and/or aldehyde groups and/or oxo groups,
- iv) phenyl, and
- v) phenyl substituted by one or more carboxyl groups and/or hydroxyl groups and/or branched and/or unbranched C₁₋₂₅-alkyl groups,

or wherein the α -carbon atom of the α -hydroxycarboxylic acid or the β -carbon atom of the β -hydroxycarboxylic acid, together with R' and X, forms a ring selected from the group consisting of:

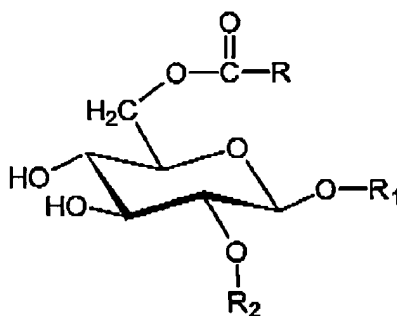
- i) unsubstituted cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 7 ring atoms and
- ii) cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 7 ring atoms and substituted by one or more carboxyl groups and/or hydroxyl groups and/or oxo groups and/or branched and/or unbranched C₁₋₂₅-alkyl groups, and

wherein the α -hydroxycarboxylic acid or the α -hydroxycarboxylic acids or the β -hydroxycarboxylic acid or the β -hydroxycarboxylic acids can optionally be in the form of their physiologically compatible salts and/or ethyl esters and/or methyl esters,

and

- b) one or more interface-active substances A, selected from the group consisting of glucose derivatives of the structural formula

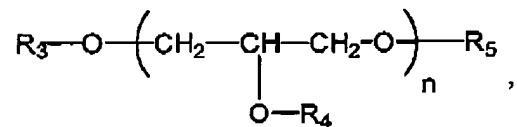
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where R is a branched or unbranched alkyl radical having from 1 to 24 carbon atoms, where R₁ is either a hydrogen atom or a branched or unbranched alkyl radical having from 1 to 24 carbon atoms, and where R₂ is either a hydrogen atom or a branched or unbranched acyl radical having from 1 to 24 carbon atoms,

and, optionally further comprising

- (c) one or more interface-active substances B, selected from the group consisting of substances of the general structural formula



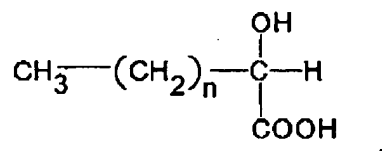
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where R_3 , R_4 and R_5 , independently of one another, are selected from the group consisting of: H, branched or unbranched, saturated or unsaturated fatty acid radicals having from 8 to 24 carbon atoms, in which up to three aliphatic hydrogen atoms can be substituted by hydroxyl groups, and n is a number from 2 to 8.

11. (Once Amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the α -hydroxy acids are selected from the group consisting of α -hydroxy fatty acids, α -hydroxy sugar acids, aliphatic α -hydroxy fruit acids, unsubstituted aromatic α -hydroxycarboxylic acids, and substituted aromatic α -hydroxycarboxylic acids.

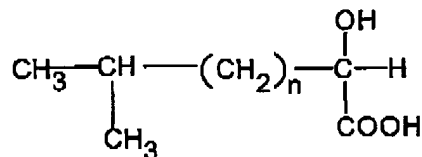
12. (Once Amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the α -hydroxy acids are selected from the group consisting of:

a) α -hydroxycarboxylic acids according to the formula:

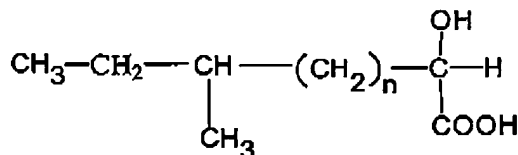


b) α -hydroxy-isocarboxylic acids according to the formula:

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- B
cont.
- c) α-hydroxy-anteisocarboxylic acids according to the formula:



where n is in each case a number from 7 to 31, and

- d) aldonic acids, aldaric acids, uronic acids, glyceric acid, malic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid and glycolic acid.

B²

14. (Once Amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the interface-active substances A are selected from the group consisting of methylglucose monostearate (A1), methylglucose distearate (A2), and any mixtures thereof.

15. (Once Amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the interface-active substances B are selected from the group consisting of compounds in which n assumes the value 3, and

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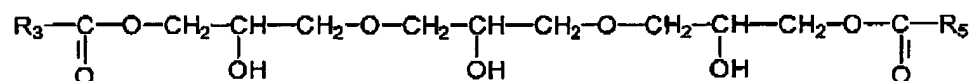
R_3 , R_4 and R_5 , independently of one another, are selected from the group consisting of: H, branched or unbranched, saturated or unsaturated fatty acid radicals having from 14 to 20 carbon atoms.

B2
cont.
16. (Once Amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the total amount of one or more interface-active substances A in the cosmetic or dermatological preparation is chosen from the range 0.1 – 25.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

17. (Once Amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the total amount of one or more interface-active substances B in the cosmetic or dermatological preparation is chosen from the range 0.1 – 25.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

18. (Once Amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the interface-active substances A and B are present in weight ratios to one another of from 20:1 to 1:20.

B3
19. (new) The method according to claim 15, wherein the interface-active substances B are of the structure:



(B1).

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20. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein the total amount of one or more interface-active substances A in the cosmetic or dermatological preparation is 0.5 – 15.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

R³
cont.
21. (new) The method according to claim 17, wherein the total amount of one or more interface-active substances B in the cosmetic or dermatological preparation is 0.5 – 15.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

22. (new) The method according to claim 18, wherein the interface-active substances A and B are present in weight ratios to one another from 10:1 to 1:10.

23. (new) The method according to claim 18, wherein the interface-active substances A and B are present in weight ratios to one another from 5:1 to 1:5.

24. (new) The method according to claim 18, wherein the interface-active substances A and B are present in weight ratios to one another from 2:1 to 1:2.

25. (new) The method according to claim 12, wherein the α -hydroxy acid is tartaric acid.

26. (new) The method according to claim 12, wherein the α -hydroxy acid is lactic acid.

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27. (new) The method according to claim 12, wherein the α -hydroxy acid is citric acid.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the amendments above and the following comments.

Amendments have been made to claims 10-12 and 14-18. A clean copy of these claims is presented above. A mark-up showing the changes that have been made to these claims using brackets and underlining is attached.